

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 08707 301607Z

51

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ACDA-19 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SSO-00 DRC-01 /165 W

----- 115477

R 301541Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1600

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

USINT ALGIERS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NI, XF

SUBJECT: FMG AND MIDDLE EAST

REF: LAGOS 8653 (NOTAL)

1. BOTH GOWON AND FMG COMMISSIONER EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ARIKPO HAVE REITERATED DURING PAST FEW DAYS THAT NIGERIAN BREAK WITH ISRAEL RESULTED ABOVE ALL FROM POST-CEASEFIRE ISRAELI ADVANCES ON WEST BANK OF SUEZ CANAL. GOWON MADE POINT IN IDENTICAL LETTERS TO SADAT AND ASSAD CONGRATULATING THEM ON CEASEFIRE ACCEPTANCE AND CITING ALLEGED ISRAELI CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS AS FRESH EVIDENCE OF GOI'S "AGGRESSIVE EXPANSIONIST POLICY ON AFRICAN CONTINENT AND ELSEWHERE." ARIKPO MADE SIMILAR POINT IN AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE ON RETURN FROM NEW YORK OCT. 29. CHARGING GOI WITH "INTOLERABLE ARROGANCE AND SICKENING DEFIANCE OF INTERNATIONAL OPINION."

2. ARIKPO ADDED FRESH NOTE NOT PRESENT IN GOWON LETTERS WHEN HE SAID THAT "MASSIVE" US SUPPORT WAS REASON WHY ISRAEL ABLE HOLD OUT "AGAINST REST OF WORLD." COMMISSIONER ADDED THAT EVENTUAL ISRAELI DEFEAT INEVITABLE UNLESS PEACEFUL
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PAGE 02 LAGOS 08707 301607Z

SETTLEMENT ACHIEVED, BUT CONCLUDED THAT HE HOPEFUL SUCH

SOLUTION WILL BE ACHIEVED.

3. COMMENT: BOTH GOWON AND ARIKPO RESTATEMENTS OF SPECIFICALLY NIGERIAN REASON FOR BREAK IN RELATIONS PRESUMABLY DUE IN PART TO LINGERING CONCERN THAT SOME MIGHT BELIEVE FMG ACTED UNDER EXTERNAL PRESSURE, NOTABLY FROM ALGERIA, WHICH PUBLICLY CRITICIZED NIGERIA LAST WEEK FOR NOT HAVING CUT TIES. ACCORDING EXTAFF SOURCE, UNWILLINGNESS APPEAR TO BE RESPONDING TO ALGERIAN CRITICISM (CASTIGATED BY RENAISSANCE IN OCTOBER 30 EDITORIAL) ALMOST DELAYED FMG DECISION ON BREAK WHICH WAS IN FACT REACHED FOR REASONS ANNOUNCED IN STATEMENT REPORTED REFTEL.
REINHARDT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS INTERRUPTION, ARMISTICE
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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